



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

American School Peace League.

By Mrs. Fannie Fern Andrews, Secretary.

The American School Peace League has just started another year of vigorous work. Its last annual convention surpassed any previously held, both in attendance and in the interest aroused. This was held from July 5 to 12, in Salt Lake City. As usual, the league held its meeting in connection with the annual convention of the National Education Association, and its headquarters in Hotel Utah were visited by hundreds of people who came for literature and conference. Thousands of pamphlets were given out, besides seven hundred copies of Mrs. Trask's drama, "In the Vanguard." The league's public and business meeting was held in the Tabernacle, and was presided over by Governor Spry, of Utah. Addresses were made by Dr. Philander P. Claxton, the United States Commissioner of Education, and by Rev. Elmer I. Goshen, of Salt Lake City. Perhaps the part of the program which aroused the most interest among the Utah people was the debate on the subject: "Resolved, That all international disputes should be settled by arbitration." Four Utah high school pupils took part in this debate, and the winner was presented with the solid gold medal of the American School Peace League. This meeting was attended by about two thousand people. On the next day the board of managers of the league gave its annual luncheon, which was attended by about seventy people. Governor Spry again served the league by being toastmaster, and addresses were given by several prominent educators. The Utah branch of the league rendered most valuable service in making this convention a great success. The National Education Association passed a strong resolution favoring the teaching of international peace ideals in the schools, and the league passed a resolution expressing its appreciation of the splendid services of Mr. James H. Van Sickle as president of the American School Peace League for the past five years. Mr. Van Sickle felt obliged to resign his office this year, and Superintendent Randall J. Condon, of Cincinnati, was elected as the new president. Mr. Condon has been greatly interested in the work of the league for some years, and he intends to carry on active work, especially in the matter of organizing State branches.

The league is continuing its efforts to establish a branch in every State in the Union, and it is expected that several will join our ranks this autumn. During the summer, we learned that the Ohio State Teachers' Association had adopted a resolution at its meeting last June commending the work of the American School Peace League and providing for the appointment of a committee to organize a State branch during the year. We have just been informed that the same has been done in North Dakota this autumn.

In the States where the Teachers' Association meets in October or November, the branches of the league have either held their annual meetings in connection with the State Teachers' Association or have had a peace speaker on the general program of the State Teachers' Association. The branches which have held meetings in connection with the State Association are Maine, Michigan, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, and Virginia, and it is expected that the following State branches will hold their meetings during Christmas week: California,

Florida, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Michigan branch was successful in engaging Mr. Hamilton Holt as the principal speaker. The Michigan State Teachers' Association secured Mr. J. A. Macdonald, editor of the *Toronto Globe*, to speak on "Our World Obligations," and on the last day of the convention the Michigan branch gave a dinner to about twenty-five people. Addresses were made by the leading educators of Michigan and by Mr. Macdonald. The recently elected State Superintendent of Instruction in Michigan, Mr. F. L. Keeler, has arranged to send out bulletins three or four times a year from the State Department of Education. Mr. Warriner, the president of the Michigan branch, will prepare these bulletins, which will be principally for history teachers.

The Missouri branch held a meeting during the convention of the State Teachers' Association in St. Louis, when the association voted to include the Missouri branch of the league as one of its departments. The secretary of this branch, Mrs. James M. Greenwood, of Kansas City, informs us that at this convention there were five thousand and forty-two persons enrolled.

The New York branch met as a department of the New York State Teachers' Association this year, and the meeting was addressed by Mr. John Finley, the State Commissioner of Education of New York; Prof. Samuel T. Dutton, of Teachers' College, New York; Prof. Harry W. Martin, head of the department of history in the Horace Mann School, New York, and Prof. George M. Forbes, of the University of Rochester. The Maine State branch carried out a very interesting program, and the press devoted much space to the report of this meeting. The Virginia branch secured for its speaker Dr. S. C. Mitchell, formerly president of the University of South Carolina, who has recently come to Virginia as president of the Medical College of Virginia.

The Montana and Rhode Island branches secured a place on the general program of the State Teachers' Association for a peace speaker, instead of holding a separate meeting. The speaker for Rhode Island was Mr. Wilbur F. Gordy, of Hartford, Connecticut, who is chairman of the history committee of the league and president of the Connecticut Peace Society. Mr. Gordy was also the organizer of the Connecticut branch of the league last spring. As the Connecticut branch was not well known to the teachers of the State previous to the convention of the State Teachers' Association in October, the secretary aimed to have every teacher at the convention become acquainted with this branch and its work. She accordingly had leaflets printed, giving the list of officers, and distributed a thousand pieces of literature besides.

Mr. W. A. Ramsey, president of the Arkansas branch of the league, is still continuing his vigorous campaign or organizing county teachers' and school branches in Arkansas. Last June he organized five county teachers' branches, and this autumn he has organized five high school branches. These school branches in Arkansas gave some of the most interesting Peace Day programs last May that were given anywhere in the country. Four of the gold medals of the American School Peace League were awarded last spring to schools in Arkansas, who in turn awarded them to the pupils giving the best oration or essay on peace at the Peace Day exercises.

We have another very ardent worker in Miss Ruth

Benson, of Colorado Springs, who teaches every year for the month of June in the Smith County Teachers' Institute of Kansas. For the past three or four years Miss Benson has brought the subject of international peace before the members of this institute, and has supplied them with literature donated by the league and other peace societies of the country. This year Miss Benson felt that these teachers were sufficiently acquainted with the movement to organize themselves into a branch of the league. She accordingly suggested the idea to them, and they entered into the plan most cordially. A strong branch was organized, with the County Superintendent of Instruction as president. Plans are also being made to organize a branch in the State Normal School at East Radford, Virginia, and in the high school of Altoona, Pennsylvania. It is also expected that branches will be formed soon in one of the grammar schools of Pittsburgh, where the principal has expressed warm interest. The Colorado branch is planning to send the lists of history questions bearing upon the international peace movement, published last year by the New York branch of the league, to every history teacher in Colorado. Two of our State branch officers very generously rendered their services last summer to address summer schools on the peace movement, namely, Prof. John H. Vaughan, secretary of the New Mexico branch, and Mr. George W. Guy, president of the Virginia branch.

The history committee of the league held a meeting at Hotel Astor, New York, on November 10 and 11, and it was voted to hold the next meeting at the same place on December 30 and 31. The committee is working very strenuously on the course of study in history for the elementary grades, and it is expected that this will be published as a 1915 book. It will probably contain about four or five hundred pages.

The Massachusetts committee on the course in citizenship has completed its material. This will be published by Houghton, Mifflin Company as a 1914 book. The course covers the eight grades of the elementary school, and the book will contain about three hundred pages. The first grade is devoted to the home, the second to the school and playground, the third to the neighborhood, fourth to the town and State, fifth to the nation, sixth to American ideals, seventh to the United States and the world, eighth to the world family. The course thus leads the pupil into the study of international rights and obligations. He is taught to appreciate other peoples and other civilizations, and to understand the special mission of the United States in world progress.

The Peace Prize Essay Contest of the American School Peace League promises to be more far-reaching than ever this year. Last year twenty-nine States were represented in this contest, and this year we expect at least forty, and a great effort will be made to get every State. The league and the World Peace Foundation send literature to every contestant bearing upon the subject of the essays. Superintendent Cunningham, of Bozeman, secretary of the Montana branch of the league, addressed the Yellowstone Valley Teachers' Association in November, calling attention particularly to the essay contest. He has also sent the announcement of the contest to over one hundred high schools of the State.

The secretary of the league is in direct correspond-

ence with the chairmen of the peace committees of several of the State Federations of Women's Clubs, and has sent a great deal of literature for distribution among the clubs. This is one of the most effective forms of co-operation.

Taking the Armorers at Their Word.

This society has sold large numbers of the little volume referred to in this article. Mr. Alfred Noyes, the English poet, in the introduction to the book, says:

"For years the cry of inventors of deadly war implements has been, This will make war impossible! War has been made impossible successively by gunpowder, armor-clad battleships, machine guns, high-power rifles, submarine boats, aeroplanes, and other contrivances. Manufacturers of these engines of destruction have long been easing their consciences by this idea, while they have been coining their millions by war scares. In fact, it does not take a long memory to recall that Bertha Krupp, on her accession to the control of the great German plant, so justified the source of her income.

At last some one has had the temerity to take the armorers at their word and to carry their argument to its logical and to them disconcerting conclusion. Modern inventions have, in sober truth, made war impossible between civilized nations, says Wilhelm Lamszus, author of "The Human Slaughter-house." And his book is a vigorous attempt to clinch the process. It shows vividly what the deadly and efficient modern machinery of murder can really do when pitted against soft brain and flesh. No man with any claim to decent humanity can tolerate the thought of such wholesale slaughter and agony as a modern war would mean, if he fully understands it, says Lamszus. And if men will not fight war is impossible. That is the final answer to militant governments and vested interests of armament. So effective and business-like is Lamszus' process that the German government suppressed his book, fearing the very result he set out to produce. But nevertheless 100,000 copies were sold in Germany in three months, and the volume is continuing its deadly course in eight other languages.

There is one thing that will certainly be said about this book by some of its readers. It will certainly be said to exaggerate the horrors of modern war, and just as certainly that is a thing which this book does not do. It is appallingly reticent, and for every touch of horror in its pages the actual records of recent warfare could supply an obscure and blood-stained mass of detail which if it were once laid before the public would put an end to militarism in a year. It is not the opponents of militarism who are given over to "cant" and "hypocrisy" and "emotionalism." It is the supporters of militarism who on the eve of a great war go about crying for suppression of facts, censorship of the facts not only of military plans, but of human suffering. For if there is one thing that the military journalist dreads it is the sight and smell of blood. 'Let us enjoy this pleasant campaign. Let us present our readers with a little military music played upon the brass bands of the press. But for God's sake do not waft over Europe the smell of iodoform or of the slaughter-house. Man is a fighting animal; let us enjoy the fight. And—*pollice verso!*'